

**From:** [Lisa Kusnierz](#)  
**To:** [McCarthy, Mindy](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Assessment methods  
**Date:** 04/03/2012 09:33 AM

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Thanks for the update. I wasn't aware that the nutrient method had been finalized - I thought metals, nutrients, and sediment were tracking along as one package. Do you have the basic tier for sediment? I'm working on impairment status reviews in the Lower Gallatin and think I might have a stream I'm going to recommend for delisting. I know there's something about how many of the factors it passes but haven't seen the AM since bugs got moved to the 2nd tier.

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Lisa Kusnierz  
U.S. EPA, Montana Office  
10 West 15th Street, Suite 3200  
Helena, MT 59626  
[Kusnierz.Lisa@epa.gov](mailto:Kusnierz.Lisa@epa.gov)  
(406) 457-5001

▼ "McCarthy, Mindy" ---04/03/2012 09:27:27 AM---Hello- Only the nutrients is finalized. I have been working with Jonathan to get the metals method

From: "McCarthy, Mindy" <MMcCarthy3@mt.gov>  
To: Lisa Kusnierz/MO/R8/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 04/03/2012 09:27 AM  
Subject: RE: Assessment methods

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Hello-

Only the nutrients is finalized. I have been working with Jonathan to get the metals method finalized. We are now discussing a change to the temporal independence requirement (to 7 days), which is likely to occur. I would like to get that finalized in the next couple of weeks, so I will send that to you when it is finished. As for the sediment method, I have recently asked for some help from Jim since it is way outside my expertise. The overall method structure won't change, but I need help with the process for identifying risks in order to determine the sampling sites, but maybe that is too big to tackle right now. In addition, I want further detail and guidance on identifying sites for comparison (reference sites). He has been very busy and hasn't had a chance to focus on it.

So...The current overall water quality assessment method AM and Nutrients AM is located at: <http://deq.mt.gov/wqinfo/qaprogram/sops.mcpx>

Thanks-

Mindy

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Mindy McCarthy  
Quality Manager  
Water Quality Planning Bureau  
Montana DEQ  
[MMccarthy3@mt.gov](mailto:MMccarthy3@mt.gov)  
406.444.6754

**From:** Lisa Kusnierz [mailto:[Kusnierz.Lisa@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Kusnierz.Lisa@epamail.epa.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 03, 2012 8:15 AM  
**To:** McCarthy, Mindy  
**Subject:** Re: Assessment methods

Hi Mindy,

Have the assessment methods been finalized for metals, nutrients, and sediment? Are they on the DEQ website?

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Lisa Kusnierz  
U.S. EPA, Montana Office  
10 West 15th Street, Suite 3200  
Helena, MT 59626  
[Kusnierz.Lisa@epa.gov](mailto:Kusnierz.Lisa@epa.gov)  
(406) 457-5001